

kalbaensis lie closer to the west, *abyssinica*, than to *vidali*, or other subspecies from the eastern part of the *H. chloris* range.

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A new subspecies of *Diglossa (carbonaria) brunneiventris* by Gary R. Graves

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While investigating the Carbonated Flower-piercer *Diglossa carbonaria* complex, Zimmer (1929) stated "... I am not able, therefore, to separate the Colombian and Peruvian birds *brunneiventris* even subspecifically except on the sole ground of geographic isolation, which is not adequate for racial distinction, and ... the size of the Colombian specimens falls well within the range of variation of my Peruvian specimens". Subsequent treatments of this group (Hellmayr 1935, Vuilleumier 1969) have maintained *brunneiventris* as a polytopic subspecies with disjunct populations at the north ends of the Western and Central Cordilleras in northern Colombia some 1500 km north of its extensive Peruvian range.

During a reappraisal (Graves 1980) of the *D. carbonaria* superspecies, I examined 358 specimens of *brunneiventris* including some 40 individuals from Colombia. These latter birds appear to be subspecifically distinct. I propose to call them

Diglossa brunneiventris vuilleumieri subsp. nov.

Type: United States National Museum No. 436798; adult male, testes enlarged; collected by M. A. Carriker, Jr. at Paramo Frontino, Department of Antioquia, Colombia, elevation 11,880 ft (c. 3620 m), on 21 August 1951.

Diagnosis: Differs from Peruvian *brunneiventris* in being significantly smaller (Table 1). Black throat patch seems to average proportionally larger.

Measurements of type (mm): Wing (chord) 62.0, tail 53.3, tarsus 20.1, culmen (from anterior edge of nostril) 7.9.

Range: Restricted to *ceja* and timberline shrubland at the northern ends of the Western and Central Cordilleras in the Department of Antioquia, Colombia.

Adult specimens examined for comparative purposes: *D. b. vuilleumieri*. Colombia: Paramillo, 2 ♀♀ (USNM); 6 ♂♂, 1 ♀ (AMNH); 2 ♂♂ (MCZ); 1 ♀ (FMNH); Paramo Frontino, 4 ♂♂, 1 ♀ (USNM); Hcda. Zulaiba, 6 ♂♂, 1 ♀ (USNM). *D. b. brunneiventris*. Peru: Cutervo-Lajas transect, 8 ♂♂, 5 ♀♀ (LSUMZ); NE Chota, 8 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀ (LSUMZ). Bolivia: Hichuloma, 4 ♂♂, 1 ♀ (ANSP); 7 ♂♂ (AMNH).

Etymology: I take pleasure in naming this new form for François Vuilleumier in recognition of his contributions to Andean evolutionary biology.

TABLE 1

Measurements of *Diglossa brunneiventris* from northern Colombia.

	Locale	Mean (mm) ± SE (n) of males			
		Wing	Tail	Tarsus	Culmen
<i>D. b. vuilleumieri</i> ¹	A	66.56 ± 0.62 (11)	57.88 ± 0.73 (12)	20.48 ± 0.16 (12)	7.88 ± 0.11 (12)
<i>D. b. vuilleumieri</i> ²	B	66.60 ± 0.51 (6)	57.93 ± 0.59 (6)	20.12 ± 0.20 (6)	7.58 ± 0.26 (5)
<i>D. b. brunneiventris</i> ³	C	68.14 ± 0.55 (8)	58.44 ± 0.88 (7)	21.14 ± 0.18 (8)	8.08 ± 0.15 (8)
<i>D. b. brunneiventris</i> ⁴	D	68.19 ± 0.66 (8)	58.90 ± 0.90 (7)	21.39 ± 0.14 (8)	8.29 ± 0.10 (8)
<i>D. b. brunneiventris</i>	E	71.33 ± 0.70 (9)	61.25 ± 0.51 (10)	21.17 ± 0.21 (10)	7.70 ± 0.10 (11)
	*p	0.02	NS	0.001	0.01

A = Paramillo-Frontino, Dpto. Antioquia, Colombia, 7° N.

B = Hcda. Zulaiba, Dpto. Antioquia, Colombia, 7° N.

C = Cutervo-Lajas transect, Dpto. Cajamarca, Peru, 6° 30' S.

D = 7 km N, 3 km E Chota, Dpto. Cajamarca, Peru, 6° 30' S.

E = Hichuloma, Dpto. La Paz, Bolivia, 16° 30' S.

*Statistical comparison of 1 versus 2 and 3 versus 4 were not significantly different. The pooled values (*vuilleumieri* 1 & 2 vs *brunneiventris* 3 & 4) were compared using a two-tailed Student's "t" test.

That *vuilleumieri* is subspecifically distinct is not surprising in view of the wide geographical separation between Peruvian and Colombian populations. The intervening region is occupied by the entirely black *D. humeralis aterrima*. Although subspecies are not evolutionary units (*sensu* Mayr 1969), geographical isolates often have unique evolutionary histories. *D. b. vuilleumieri* has probably been geographically isolated since the last glacial extreme (21,000–13,000 years B. P. – see Graves 1980). From the available material there appears to be little difference between populations of *vuilleumieri* on either side of the Cauca Valley (Table 1). However, *vuilleumieri* is significantly smaller (wing, tarsus and culmen length) than the nearest population of nominate *brunneiventris* in northern Peru. Included for comparison in Table 1

is a sample of nominate *brunneiventris* from the southernmost part of its range in northwest Bolivia. A preliminary examination of unpublished data suggests that nominate *brunneiventris* is latitudinally clinal in size, the size increasing with distance from the equator.

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Redescription of *Halcyon bougainvillei excelsa* Mayr, 1941

by John E. du Pont and David M. Niles

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During the American Museum of Natural History's Whitney South Sea Expedition, a single specimen of *Halcyon bougainvillei* was collected on 26 July 1927 at 4000 ft, inland from Cape Hunter on the south shore of Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands. This specimen, which was sexed by R. H. Beck, the collector, as a female, was designated by Mayr (1941, *Amer. Mus. Novit.* No. 1152: 3) as the holotype (and only known specimen) of a new subspecies, *H. b. excelsa*.

Halcyon bougainvillei is sexually dimorphic in colour. Comparison of the holotype of *excelsa* with nominate *bougainvillei* and with an additional specimen from Guadalcanal now in the British Museum indicates that the holotype was probably wrongly sexed, and was an immature male.

This assessment is based upon the following (capitalized colour names are from Smithe (1975) *Naturalist's Color Guide*). The back of the holotype is, in the main, very dark Greenish Olive, becoming Blackish Neutral Gray anteriorly. The back of the second specimen from Guadalcanal, an adult female taken on 6 July 1953, is uniformly bright Olive-Green. In possessing an essentially olive back, rather than the (presumably - as in *bougainvillei*) deep blue back of adult males, the holotype does seem to be in female-like plumage. The striking difference in brightness between the (very dark) back of the holotype and that of the adult female *excelsa* implies to us, however, that the holotype was a young male. That it was immature is further suggested by its being very faintly barred on the sides of its breast, in this characteristic matching immatures of the closely related *H. concreta*.